



MONTEREY NEWS

August 2002
VOLUME XXXII · Number 8



The Town

Fire Company

July began as June ended with considerable discussion over the appointment of the Fire Chief. It was agreed that the Town values the service, dedication, and leadership Chief Raymond Tryon has given in many areas of town life over his career. Nonetheless concern was expressed that an orderly transition of leadership within the Fire Company is essential to public safety. The Select Board voted unanimously to appoint Chief Tryon to another year with the intention of beginning work on the transition process immediately. The board intends to interview each member of the Fire Company and solicits input from all members of the community. The board also reappointed all current members of the Fire Company. Del Martin is the only EMT in the Company at this time.

Details of the financial arrangements for the new fire truck were reviewed by Finance Committee Chair Stan Ross: signing of lease agreements, answering the questions of bankers in the Midwest who hold the note, and the timetable for payments and delivery.

Town Hall

Various details of the town hall use and construction were discussed by the Select Board: a service contract for the elevator, replacing the parking lot lights with a less invasive design, access and security issues. Specifications for the design of the next phase are at the town hall, and the project has gone out to bid. Del Rogers reviewed his proposal to maintain and upgrade the town's computer system.

Will Marsh



Chief Ray Tryon at his post at the Firemen's Steak Roast on July 27.

Odds and Ends

All permit applications and regulations are available on-line at Monterey-Ma.org. The Select Board is available for Monday evening meetings by appointment. The board reaffirmed that in all situations involving wild animals Marty Clark should be contacted at 528-6694. Unsigned letters addressed to the board are passed over. An audit of town finances is currently under way.

On the Roads

Numerous complaints have been made about speeding on town roads. Tyringham Road in its present condition is especially dangerous for those left in the dust. Speeders damage dirt roads by tearing up the surface, creating washboards, and contributing to erosion. Numerous town roads suffered some degree of erosion in July when two violent thunderstorms swept through one after the other. Severe runoff washed quantities of sand into streams, wetlands, and lawns. A number of trees were downed and

many residents were without power. Fortunately, steps had already been taken to protect the wetlands bordering Tyringham Road in response to a DEP complaint.

Eric Montgomery told the Select Board of his initial meeting with an engineer he has hired to help design a solution for erosion on Fairview Road. The engineer described the gravel on the road as having too many "fines" and being therefore unsuitable for use on dirt roads. Tons of sand have washed down Fairview Road and onto the Montgomery's property, often rendering their driveway unusable. Other residents also expressed concern about increased erosion and suitability of the material. Jon Sylbert suggested finding more suitable material. Currently gravel is purchased from Tryon Construction, under a gravel bid.

Machinery bids were opened and awarded to Tryon Construction. Paving bids were opened and awarded to LB Corp. of Lee at \$40.21 per ton, \$5 more per ton than Director of Operations Maynard Forbes had anticipated.

Be reminded that paving on Tyringham Road from Heron Pond Park to Peppermint Brook will take place on Monday and Tuesday, August 5 and 6, from 6:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. for paving. Expect delays and detours, and plan alternate routes if possible

At the Lake and in the Parks

The town must file a Notice of Intent for Drawdown. Weeds and the invasive purple loosestrife are causing much concern among residents and users especially in the town beach area. The Park Commission asked to be included in the Notice of Intent for the Drawdown so that they could work on removing weeds. Use of the town beach by nonresidents could force the issue of permits or user fees. Parking may be expanded to include an area across the road. Recent improvements to the area around the portable toilet have been noted, and additional trees will be planted to provide more shade.

The Select Board is considering options for expanded use of Greene Park and the members are planning on walking the bounds. Most of the property is inaccessible due to brush at this time.

The Rochedieus came before the Select Board to discuss a dock and deck which have been constructed without the proper permits. In enforcing the zoning bylaw, Building Inspector Potash will require the deck to be removed and the Rochedieus will have to apply for a building permit. In the course of the discussion June Rochedieu questioned how new residents were supposed to find out what is required of them. Mr. Sylbert agreed that there is the "larger question of how people get information in town."

Revaluation, Taxes, Spending

Revaluation of properties in Monterey is mandated by the state to occur every three years. The next tax bill will reflect these higher valuations, and Peter

Brown stated that "some people will be surprised at the increase" in their tax liability. When questioned about whether this might be an opportunity to lower the tax rate, Mr. Brown stated that he felt we should budget for the maximum amount available, effectively circumventing the limits of Proposition 2 1/2. A DOR seminar could be held on setting the tax rate, something that should be of interest to many.

Soon the budget process for the next fiscal year will commence with various town entities presenting their "wish lists." The Select Board and Finance Committee will meet on capital projects. With this in mind the Select Board expressed concern over the slow pace of the Salary Committee in meeting to research and make recommendations.

Zoning

Attorney Sydney Smithers, representing the owners of Blue Heron Landing on Route 57, appeared before the Select Board. The owners wish to turn Blue Heron Landing into condominiums. This could only be accomplished with the granting of special permits and variances. A wide-ranging discussion of procedure and precedent in the application process ensued, including observations about the role of other boards and the interpretation of the zoning bylaws. The board decided that they would have no comment on the matter other than to direct Mr. Smithers to begin the application process.

Peter Murkett, Chair of the Board of Appeals came before the Select Board to learn more about their concerns and offered to review specific decisions to increase their understanding of the process. Mr. Sylbert stated very strongly

that he felt that an application should not be altered or added to by petitioners once the public notice has been published and that all presentations by advocates of a case should be restricted to the specific questions in the application and expanded on only in the public comment period of the hearing. The issue of conflicts of interest and the difficulty of staffing public positions with able volunteers in a town with a small population was also discussed.

Second Homeowners Meeting

The annual second homeowners meeting took place at the Monterey Firehouse on Saturday, July 20. Although as taxpayers second homeowners provide a large share of the funds allocated at our town meetings, their concerns related largely to matters of comfort and convenience.

A presentation was made about the bears in the neighborhood, which led into concerns about trash disposal. Since many in the group have extended families, having only one dump sticker often complicates disposal, and more than one sticker is deemed a financial hardship. There is no immediate resolution, as policy has been set for this year, but a pay-as-you-throw policy is a possibility for the future. The disposal area will stay open on Monday holidays to accommodate late departures.

Concerns were voiced about the weedy condition of Lake Garfield, and possible solutions involving the introduction of carp and weevils. As a Great Pond, Lake Garfield is not the responsibility of the town except at the town beach, and solutions are the state's responsibility.

Many expressed their eagerness for cell phone service and were disappointed

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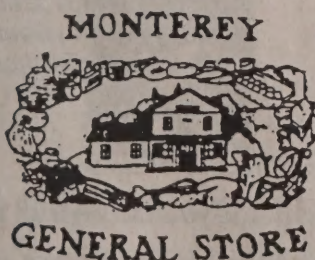
Vinnie Burt practicing for LakeFest sandcastle building contest.

to learn that because of the topography, no one cell tower could service all of the town. Comments about speeding and dusty roads prompted Select Peter Brown to state that paving roads led to more speeding and "you don't want your road improved."

Several residents expressed dismay at the brutal logging that has taken place on Jed Lipsky's land on Mt. Hunger Rd. and wondered when the Scenic Mountains Act could be implemented. There is no word yet from the Conservation Commission on a public hearing.

There were renewed calls for building tennis courts on town land. Mr. Brown said he is in favor.

— Michele Miller



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LakeFest 2002, August 17

Free Fun For Everyone

Hey, Monterey! From fishing to fireworks, LakeFest 2002 promises to be even bigger and even better than last years event. And that's no easy task, considering all the enjoyment that was dished out at LakeFest 2001. The schedule is awesome, so let's waste no time and get right to it.

Activities around Town

8:00–11:00 a.m. Fishing derby at the fish hatchery on River Road for children 12 and under. Prizes will be awarded.

10:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m. Lake-Inspired Art Show in the meetinghouse basement. To register submissions please call Eileen Lawlor at 528-7916. Additionally, cool down at **Tryons Tea Room** (meetinghouse basement, kitchen area) with such nostalgic favorites as root beer floats, hand-dipped ice cream cones, and iced mint tea.

3:00–4:30 p.m. Camp nostalgia photos at the General Knox Museum wing of the Monterey Library.

Activities at Town Beach

1:00–3:00 p.m. Free kayak demonstrations and rides. Take a spin in one of eleven different kayaks courtesy of the good folks at Expeditions. They'll be there to get you started.

1:00–3:00 p.m. Free fly-casting demonstrations by the very expert Marty Cherneff on Brewer Pond at the dam.

3:00 p.m. Free canoes rides on the pond, escorted by Ron McMahon.

3:00 p.m. Free motorboat rides around the lake. (Calling all captains! We need a few more good men to volunteer to host rides. Please call Hy Rosen 528-9090.)

3:00–5:00 p.m. Sandcastle building, children's craft table, banner & mural painting, and paper boat making. You can bring a paper boat that you have made or make one on the spot. Then, at 5:00 p.m., you can float your boat.

5:00 p.m. Launch flotilla of paper boats.

5:00 p.m. Raffle drawing for kayak.

5:30 p.m. Potluck dinner. Bring a dish that serves 6–8 people and join in this sumptuous feast. Followed by campfire/marshmallows.

6:00–8:00 p.m. Folk Dancing with the fabulous Karl Finger. Plus the foot-stomping, heart-pumping country music of Bottom of the Bucket (this writer offers apologies for referring to this terrific trio as "Bottom of the Barrel" in last month's issue).

9:30 p.m. Fireworks will light up the sky in a dazzling display.

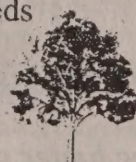
LakeFest 2002 is brought to you by the Lake Garfield Association with the help of Monterey Park Commission. Its going to be one wonderful day.

One more thing—please use all of your influence with the weatherman to assure us all a glorious, sun-filled day. Rain date: August 24th. (But, don't even think about it.)

— Hy Rosen

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Monterey Camping Photos at General Knox Museum

Monterey camp alumni and other interested persons are invited to visit the General Knox Museum from 3-4:30 p.m. on August 17 as part of the LakeFest celebration. Photographs of camp activities will be exhibited.

Monterey history abounds in camps. Beginning in the 1930s, Monterey experienced the heyday of summer camping with Fernway, Jayson, and Meadowlark camps all active and flourishing. A 1974 map of Southern Berkshire County shows Camp Owaissa (Jayson Camp for girls) and Glenmere (formerly Fernway and later Shalom) on Lake Garfield. At that time Lake Buel had four camps—Half Moon, Deerwood, Big Ford, and To-Ho-Ne—and Meadowlark continued on the Art School site.

Are you an alumnus of one of these camps? If so, do you know that some camps gave photographs of the campground and campers to the Monterey Historical Society? Members of the society hope you will come and enjoy our display of photographs. See you at LakeFest!

— Jana Shepard



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Lake Inspired Art Show Seeks Entrees, Attendees

On August 17, from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., there will be a lake-inspired mixed gallery show in the meetinghouse basement as part of LakeFest 2002

Additionally, everyone who comes to the art show will be able to cool down at TRYON'S TEA ROOM (meetinghouse basement's kitchen area) with such nostalgic favorites as root beer floats, hand-dipped ice cream cones, and iced mint tea. Historic photographs and other memorabilia from Monterey's original tea room operated by Della and Nina Tryon will be on display.

To register submissions for this year's Lake-Inspired Art Show or to volunteer to help with the gallery or tea room, please call Eileen Lawlor at 528-7916, right away. We'll see you there!

Lakefest Lemonade

New to the LakeFest this year will be a lemonade stand run mostly by kids (with some of their adult friends). The profits from the stand will go towards future Lakefests, or beautification projects near the town beach. We would love to have kids of all ages helping—

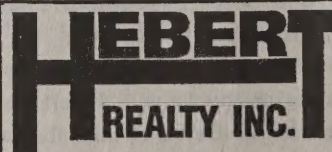
Historical Society Talk on the General Store

The Monterey General Store has been at the center of the town since it was built about 1780. On August 16, at 7:30 p.m., the Monterey Historical Society encourages everyone to gather at the General Knox Museum to share our memories of the store. Delight Wing Dodyk, historian, will guide the discussion while Cynthia Weber puts our recollections on audio tape. When the tape is transcribed, the recollections will become an archive for the museum and a resource for future town historians. We especially welcome the children and grandchildren of past store proprietors.

After the formal program, Bonnie Marks, present manager of the Monterey General Store, has graciously invited us to visit the store and have our refreshments there. We may be able to visit the upstairs, usually closed to visitors!

some enthusiastic teenagers would be great! If you are willing to help run the stand, please call Franny at 528-5414. Small children are welcome as long as they have an adult friend with them.

— Franny Huberman and Bob Carlson



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School Playground Update

Ten percent of the funds have been raised already to buy new playground equipment to replace the outmoded metal swings and climbing structures at New Marlborough Central School. A coin drive, the fourth graders' auction and individual donations have brought in \$3,000 toward purchasing state-of-the-art, durable safe, and exciting equipment that will stimulate interactive outdoor play and exercise.

The goal is to raise the remaining funds, including an additional \$10,000 for surfacing and installation, so that the community can assemble the equipment in spring 2003. In addition to donations, the Playground Committee is seeking foundation grants.

An initial design showing the variety and overall brand of equipment—an innovative, recycled material similar to the playground at the Plain School in Stockbridge—can be seen at the libraries and general stores in Mill River and Monterey, and at Lake Buel General Store. This initial design, however, will be amended

Maggie Leonard



And they're off in the Monterey Road Race on July 20.

based on the community's ideas. The Playground Committee is planning scheduled events throughout the coming months to solicit community involvement in the final design.

One way for those interested to offer their suggestions or get questions answered will be on the Green in New Marlborough Village on Burritt Day (August 24), when the Playground Committee will have the Landscape Structures, Inc., catalogue available showing various equipment options. Children can enjoy the committee's play area and face painting while their parents learn more

about the new playground.

One question everyone asks is what will happen to the old playground; the renovation at this point only deals with the area at the rear of the playground.

For other questions, or suggestions or comments, drop a note in the boxes beside the displays at the general stores and libraries, write to PO Box 206, Mill River, MA 01244, or call Playground Committee chair Terry Ferrarra at 229-3183.

— Linda Thorpe



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Upcoming Events at Bidwell House Museum

Saturday, August 3, 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.: Maureen Costello will be on hand to present a wool processing demonstration. Various tools of her trade will be on display, such as two looms, a drum carder and a spinning wheel. In addition, two pallets of dyed wool will be used to explain the centuries-old process of wool dying. Maureen is the owner of Sheepgate, a wool products shop in Blandford, Massachusetts, and has done presentations at the Botanical Gardens in Stockbridge and the Shaker Village in Old Chatham, New York, and has participated often with Agriculture in the Classroom. Please join us at the museum for an exciting and educational day.

Saturday, August 17, 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.: Various historic quilts from The Bidwell House Museum's collection will be exhibited in conjunction with a quilting demonstration by MaryKate Jordon. MaryKate is a Massachusetts-certified art teacher and a member of the Embroiderers' Guild of America. Please join us for what will assuredly be an interesting demonstration.

Saturday, September 7, 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.: Darryl A. Perkins, President of the North American Falconer's Association will present a program on Goshawks and Falconry. Mr. Perkins is the author of a recent publication titled *Understanding Goshawks*. His presentation will feature live birds and a discussion of the art of falconry. Come meet these beautiful birds of prey in person and learn how they survive in the wild. This is sure to be an educational event for the entire family.

The museum, located on Art School Road in Monterey, is open for tours through October 20 from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Tuesday through Sunday. At other times, the museum may be viewed by appointment. Admission is free.

For more information please call The Bidwell House Museum at (413) 528-6888 or visit our website at www.bidwellhousemuseum.org.

— Candace Thayer

Bidwell House Looking for Temperance Memorabilia

The Director of The Bidwell House Museum is seeking old photos, diaries, letters, news articles, magazine articles, posters, quilts, buttons, banners—basically any and all memorabilia and/or artifacts—relating to the Temperance Movement. Also, if anyone has memories of women in their families who were active in the movement, and if you are willing to relate these memories orally so that they can be recorded, I encourage you to call me at 413-528-6888, or e-mail me at museum@bcn.net.

I ask that these articles be loaned to the museum to be used in a Temperance Movement exhibit. I have started researching this topic and am trying to organize an exhibit for the summer 2003 season. The articles will be kept on display for the summer season and will be returned to their owners shortly thereafter.

A Short History of the Temperance Movement

The Temperance Movement was a feminist effort to gain control of their lives through social reform. The roots of the Temperance Movement (and its counterpart the Suffrage Movement) can be traced to the time between the Revolutionary War and the Civil War, when social values changed as a result of political and religious reforms. Then, during

Tyringham Road Paving

Paving on Tyringham Road in Monterey from Heron Pond Park to Peppermint Brook will take place on Monday and Tuesday, August 5 and 6, from 6:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Expect delays and detours. Use alternate routes if possible.

— Maynard Forbes

Director of Operations, Highways,
Buildings and Properties

the Civil War, women were called upon to support the war effort, and as a result, found they were gaining autonomy for their actions. However, when the call to arms ended and the men returned from war, women once again found their lives dominated by their male family members. Seeking to regain a small portion of freedom, women began to organize, usually through the churches, into socially active groups. These groups would go out into their communities in an effort to help those less fortunate. In this way women gained self-esteem and recognition for having a strong nurturing instinct. Through this type of public interaction, women were able to participate in a world separate from their seclusive home life, and gradually began to venture into the world of business and the political arena.

— Candace Thayer

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Invader on our Shores

The invader wears a mask, like a classic thief. The mask is made of beautiful purple blossoms. What this thief steals is our shore and wetlands, the outlets of our lakes and ponds, and the habitat and food of native creatures. This invader, purple loosestrife, is a plant that grows along the shores, growing about three to five or six feet tall. You will see its purple flowers this month in wetlands around the Berkshires, and in the entire Northeast. This year you will see it on the shore of Brewer's Pond, by Tyringham Road. It looks like a field of flowers, but it is in fact an active invader.

In not too many years after loosestrife gains a foothold, according to the botanists at the Massachusetts Bureau of Fisheries and Wildlife and the Nature Conservancy, the entire ecology of an area can be changed. Loosestrife can do this because it is an "exotic" species plant, one that has been imported, and introduced in some way into a new area, like the Northeast in the case of loosestrife. Problems arise because the exotics have no natural enemies in the new area and tend to upset the balance of nature there. In the past few years loose-

strife has made an appearance at Lake Garfield, and has established itself in a stand on the Brewer's Pond shore, on town land near the Tyringham Road.

The LGA Ecology Team has publicized the problems associated with loosestrife to the lakeshore owners since the plants were first seen at the lake, because, as innocent as it seems, the plants soon begin to spread. This action has been taken under the recommendations of the Massachusetts Lakes and Pond Watershed Action Strategy, to form an "early invasive species response team." Our goal is to keep the loosestrife from gaining a foothold and causing an expensive eradication problem down the line.

The scientific literature tells us that Dr. Bernard Bossey of Cornell University has worked on biological controls of this weed, and has found certain weevils and beetles that have been used as biological control of loosestrife with success. Beetles have been released to work on the large stand of loosestrife in the Housatonic River in Lee.

Our problem with loosestrife at Lake Garfield is just beginning, so we are in a position to be able to stop the invader. The LGA has been to the Monterey Conservation Commission and Selectboard

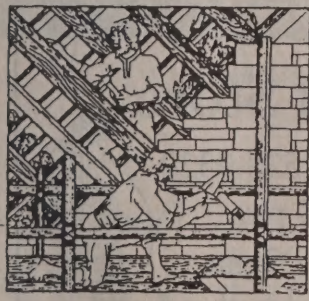
regarding the infestation on town land. The team will be identifying, bagging, and cutting the loosestrife when it blooms at Brewer's Pond. Pulling up the plants is recommended for a small stand, according to all authorities. Bagging the plant, as with a large black plastic garbage bag, before it is pulled up, will help to prevent dispersal of each plant's more than two million seeds as the plant is removed. A request for removal of this particular stand will be made with the DEP, perhaps in conjunction with the town application for drawdown. The team will outline the extent of the infestation with stakes for ultimate removal when the shore is more accessible.

Individuals who want to remove a plant should bag it before pulling up. This was recommended by speakers at the Lake & Pond Seminar in September 2001. Use of a tool called a Weed Wrench is recommended by New England Environmental, Inc. However, removal of a large stand will need approval by the Conservation Commission. So the advice is, for several very good reasons, if you own lakefront property don't let the invader loosestrife take hold on your shore.

Some web sites to visit regarding loosestrife are:

- www.nps.gov/plants/alien/fact/lysa1.htm (source of photo above)
- www.invasiveplants.net/plants/purpleloosestrife.htm
- www.hort.uconn.edu/ipm/general/biocntrl/lsetrife.htm

— Patricia Edelstein, Ecology Team,
Lake Garfield Association



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Remembering Jeri Lynn Palmer

Jeri Lynn Palmer, 55, of Main Road, Monterey, died suddenly at home on Wednesday July 11. Born in Baltimore, Maryland on October 17, 1946, daughter of Ralph and Mary Ellin Rossi. Jeri Lynn moved to Sheffield with her family as a young child. She attended local schools in Sheffield and also attended the former Searles High School in Great Barrington.

Jeri Lynn was employed locally as a home health aide and gourmet cook for many years, and worked for Flowering Branch and Wheel Barrow Hill Farms, and for Walter Stuber. She also enjoyed sewing and fishing with her husband and was an accomplished flower gardener. She was a member of the First Congregational Church in Great Barrington and had worked at their recent church bazaar.

She is survived by her husband, Rodney F. Palmer, whom she married on January 23, 1965 in Hudson, New York.

Expressions of sympathy in Jeri Lynn's memory may be made to the Berkshire Humane Society or the MSPCA in care of the Birches-Roy Funeral Home, 33 South St., Gt. Barrington, MA 01230.

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Tom and Barbara Haver

Tom and Barbara Haver have spent summer vacations at Lake Buel, a "Great Pond" almost entirely within the Town of Monterey, for more than fifty years. Tom was introduced to this beautiful Monterey lake by his Uncle Milton almost sixty years ago. Uncle Milton was a physician who practiced medicine in Springfield, Massachusetts. He and his in-laws owned cottages on Lake Buel on the Monterey side of the lake and spent vacation time here. Tom's family lived in New Jersey and decided to rent a cottage at Hebert's Beach so that they could see their brother during the summer.

Barbara's introduction to the family and to Lake Buel was in 1949, when she was invited to spend a weekend with them. She continued to visit the following summers, and after Tom and Barbara were married in 1952 they continued to spend time at the lake.

In 1953, they bought their first cottage, Badger's Den, named after its owner, Mr. Badger from Great Barrington. It was located on the New Marlborough part of the lake near Camp To-ho-ne, and they were able to share a small community beach. The best thing about that cottage was the sound of chamber music coming from a nearby cottage. As their family grew, the cottage became too small, and they then bought a larger cottage

close by and named it Ko-ke-ro after their three sons, Kohel, Kenan, and Ross. That beautiful cottage had its own small piece of lakefront so they were able to tie a rowboat to the dock and swim there.

Tom and Barbara share a great interest in children, Tom is a psychologist who has worked in public schools as a school psychologist, and later, for about forty years, at William Paterson University as a professor of psychology. He has a private clinical practice. Barbara is a Learning Consultant who worked for the Fairfield School district in New Jersey before she retired, and was an adjunct professor at Felician College in the Education Department for the following four years.

When Tom was young he dreamed of having a camp for emotionally disturbed children. It appeared that this dream might become a reality in 1959. Littlecrest, which was a large beautiful piece of property on the Monterey side of the lake with a large waterfront, large guest lodge, and five cottages, was for sale. Tom thought this was the right spot for such a camp. His mother and brother were also interested in the property. After much discussion, the camp idea was ruled out, and a country resort, Seven Arts, was ruled in.

Sandy did the advertising, Harriet, their mom, decorated the lodge with beautiful flowers from her garden, Tom and Barbara cleaned up the rooms, added to the furnishings, rented rooms, met the

Lake Buel General Store

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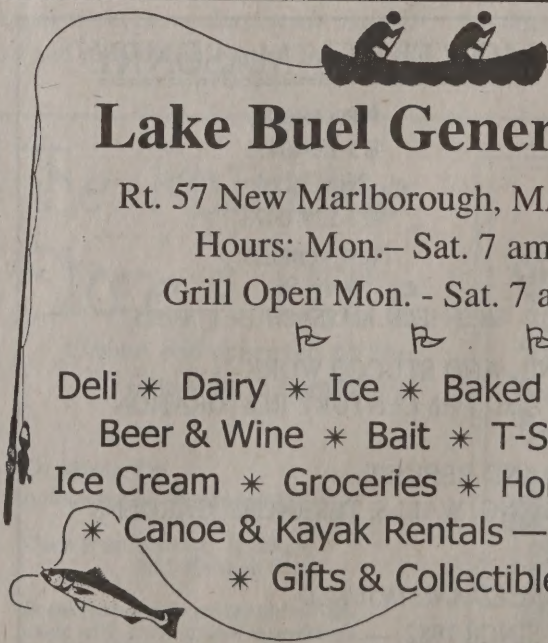
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Tom and Barbara Haver at Tanglewood.

venture did not pay off. The following year, they rented the whole place to the Fokine Ballet. The next year, a farm team from the Washington Senators were residents. The partners then decided they would rent the individual cottages to individual groups. That practice continued for a number of years. Tom and Barbara did the maintenance, cleaning, etc., with some outside help. They decided that it would be easier to take care of the cottages if they moved their family across the lake to the Seven Arts property, so they sold Kokero

and moved into a one bedroom cottage close to the waterfront and down the road from the rental cottages. As their boys grew up, they added on to the house, little by little. When the Northcut's sold their house to them, Sandy and his family also moved across the lake and lived next door.

Their cottage now has four bedrooms and a large living room/dining room/kitchen. One of the tenants asked the partners if he could buy the top half of the property about twenty-five years ago. They decided to sell it and to keep the

guests, kept the books, engaged linen service and planned breakfasts and evening snacks, cared for the waterfront and the tennis court, and on and on. They met many interesting people, from musicians, to people from many different professions, including an aviator who owned a radio station in Chicago and Dr. Bill Dement the "Sleep specialist" from New York City.

When the assets and liabilities were evaluated at the end of the first summer, their accountant told them this business

Collection Bin to Help Needy

There is now a collection bin for donated goods for the needy by the front door in the Monterey General Store. Please consider dropping in a can or two of food, or shampoo, toothpaste, etc. All that is collected there will be added to what is collected in the meetinghouse entryway and taken to the People's Pantry in Great Barrington for their Thursday distribution. The People's Pantry helps those in need in south Berkshire County. This is a good way to make a difference locally

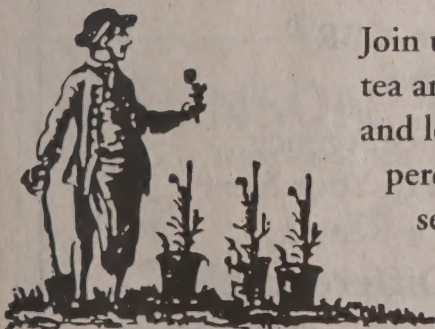
portion where they had been living for themselves.

Tom and Barbara's children are all married and each has two children. They visit from Oregon, Pennsylvania, and Eastern Massachusetts, especially in the summertime, when they all spend at least a week at the lake. They grew up listening to concerts at Tanglewood, fishing and swimming in Lake Buel, learning to play tennis, and exploring the Berkshires. The grandchildren are growing up experiencing this same beautiful environment. When the family assembles in other than the summer season, the "Lake" has no town reference, but is a special place just east of the Appalachian Trail. They cherish the time they spend there.

— Jana and Roy Shepard

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From the Meetinghouse . . .

While I was in divinity school I sang in the Harvard University Choir, affiliated with the Memorial Church in Harvard Yard. We performed daily at the morning prayer service, the oldest continuous church service on this continent, first gathering in 1636, and for the Sunday services during the school year. All in all, it was an exalted choir in an exalted atmosphere, and it was a thrill, at times a fierce one, to be a member of that elite group of singers.

One of my favorite pieces was a setting of the 23rd Psalm as arranged by Ralph Vaughn Williams, in which my favorite verse began, "The sure provisions of my God attend me all my days; O may Thy house be my abode, and all my

work be praise." Following the weeks when we first sang this piece, in the winter of 1998, this final phrase became my secret prayer, my mantra—"...may all my work be praise."

At that time, regardless of the plain fact that I was in seminary and that the obvious conclusion anyone would draw was that I was studying to become a parish pastor, I was very secretive regarding my faith. I never discussed my prayer life with anyone, or my relationship with God, and I certainly never told anyone that this lyric had in many ways become my life.

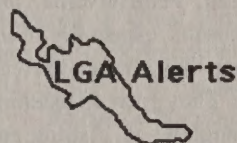
A few weeks later, on an April afternoon, I found myself working in a soup kitchen in Park Slope, a depressed neighborhood in Brooklyn. I had never volunteered there before. I may never again. I was just passing through, with the youth group I led at the time, on a mission trip to New York to volunteer in soup kitchens and day shelters throughout the city.

There are all sorts of soup kitchens: some nice, others nasty, some big and spacious, others small and foul-smelling. We worked in one that operated out of the sanctuary of an Episcopal church in Chelsea, white marble under our feet, sunlight streaming through stained-glass windows, casting various colors on already variously colored faces, and another that operated out of the fellowship

hall of the Love Gospel Assembly, a church that had taken over an abandoned building in the Bronx, brown and darker brown linoleum tile under our feet and no windows at all in the cinderblock walls.

CHIPS, an acronym for Christian Help in Park Slope, served out of an old storefront; the kitchen and all the cooks, old women from the neighborhood, huddled in the back room. It could seat forty-eight at a time, and most days served three to five hundred meals in quick shifts of shiftless, homeless, roaming people. The basement, where they stored the canned goods, was infested with rats, and most of the perishables had been donated from grocery stores and bakeries, the goods they would not have been able to sell. The lettuce was brown, the bananas were bruised, the loaves of bread were already broken. The supervisor, a small forceful woman named Joy, also from the neighborhood, spoke with a Dominican accent and wore an apron with old food on it. The other volunteers that day were regulars as well. They came twice a week every week, a group from a school for children who cannot attend mainstream schools. "They're mildly retarded," Joy explained to me in full voice, "but they don't make much noise."

That day was cool and sunny, spring beginning to break loose, the wind in an uproar. Outside a line had begun to gather,



LGA Meeting to Discuss Formation of Lake District

On Saturday, August 10th, at 9:00 a.m., the Lake Garfield Association will meet at the Monterey Firehouse. An important item on the agenda will be what to do about our Great Lake's weed problems. One possible solution: create our own tax district that raises funds to positively affect the ecology and general environment.

A guest speaker will describe what those living around Goose Pond did, and an attorney familiar with Massachusetts laws on this subject will also speak. Other lakes have such districts, e.g., Lake Buel and Goose Pond, and residents and homeowners have been generally satisfied with the benefits.

Michele Miller

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and when we unlocked the front door, people streamed in, some silently with downcast eyes, others cheery, saying "hello" and "thank you," still others drunk or stoned in some way and acting the part, loud, belligerent, looking to fight. They moved through the serving line, Joy directing them. They sat down, ate, and left, replaced by others who had been waiting outside, Joy directing them, shifts of ten minutes, sometimes less.

When most of the food had run out, the volunteers, who had prepared and then served, now began to clean up. Joy directed us—to clear the tables, wash the dishes, fold the chairs and stack them in the corner. I was the only one standing still, in the center of the room, while the one guest who remained hung on and chatted at me.

His voice was thick and difficult to understand. He was missing most of his teeth and he had an Hispanic accent, but I did get most of what he was saying. He wanted to sweep the floors. He wanted to know if I thought he would be allowed to sweep the floors, because he had just had lunch, and it was chilly outside, and he enjoyed the work, and he seldom had any to do. He wanted to help out by sweeping the floors, because the more you work the more glory there is for the Lord. Working is glory for the Lord.



Will Marsh

The scene at the Firemen's Steak Roast.

Did I know what he meant? Did I agree, that if he swept the floors there would be more glory for the Lord? Because this is how he lived, to glorify the Lord, and *that* you can only do through work. So he wanted to sweep the floors and glorify the Lord. Did I agree? Did I know what he meant?

And here was my secret prayer, which I had learned singing in an elite choir in Harvard University's Memorial Church: "May all my work be praise."

"Yes," I answered, "I do know what you mean."

So we swept that floor together to glorify God.

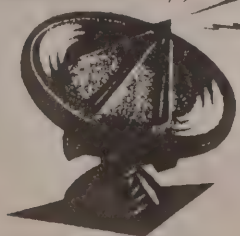
According to the Christian liturgical year, we are amidst the season of Pentecost, the longest season, twenty-six weeks. The first Christian Pentecost was fifty days after the first Easter, when people from every nation under heaven were living in Jerusalem. Suddenly from heaven came a sound like the rush of a violent wind; it filled the city while all of the people were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. At this the crowd was bewildered, because each one heard the others speaking in their own native language. Amazed and astonished, they asked, "How is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language, so many foreigners speaking about God's deeds of power?"

According to the church calendar, we are amidst the season of Pentecost, when we celebrate the unifying spirit of God in the creation, when we celebrate the common language that has the power to bring the world together, the language of love and praise, spoken in worship, in prayer, in acts of kindness, in shared silence, and, I know now, in this as well, in sweeping a floor with another to glorify God.

— Elizabeth Goodman

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At one point
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The egg
Discharged by the bursting
Of the follicle
Corpus Luteum*

— Peter Shepley

Nocturnal Chorus

*The little peepers by the mill,
Undaunted by the night owl's scream
Are vying with a whip-poor-will.
A woodcock's "zeep" beats out the time.
Tree toads inflate their tiny throats
And fire flies dance from dusk 'till light
While bull frogs with their bongo drums
Join in the chorus of the night.*

— Eleanor Kimberley

Odalisque

*Had I been born in Basra
I would have known your song
I would have heard the nightingale
above the muted throng*

*I would have lifted petals
and poured them on your head
and knelt beside your body
to kiss you on your bed*

*I would have leaned on parapets
low beside the sea
I would have heard your singing voice
floating back to me*

*I would have danced in solitude
beneath a minaret
floating through your damask dreams
and so we might have met*

*we would have sat together
in silence hand in hand
our melons not yet eaten
our feet upon the sand*

*I hear the silver fading
the dusk is never long
had I been born in Basra
I would have heard your song.*

— A. O. Howell



Memory

*The past keeps losing a dimension
and sliding sideways into the mind
lying flat, folded, compressed, pinched
into oblivion.*

*Then things witnessed or read
pile up on top, between
and the mind ceases to keep track.
How tell the difference?*

*Ah, my dear, it is quite simple:
when thought fingers through these sheaves
it is only those memories
that flash back to blinding being
and stab anew.*

*It is only those that wound
with the reminder
that time has fled
forever and ever.*

— A. O. Howell

Instruments

*On the stage,

he tickles strings
while swiveling his mouth
around a note.*

*He pulls,
 pushes the guitar,
creates blue-white blare.*

I spin the pen in my hand.

*He taps all the frets,
toggles the whammy bar,
releases notes over my head.*

I've no chance of doing this.

There's a pen in my hand.

— Jacob Aron Weisman



Wild Neighbors, Not So Shy Anymore

Here in the Berkshires we have got bears in the backyards, through the screen doors, in the kitchens and cars. The deer are in the garden as never before, even though we have an active dog on the place. (Ruby chases airplanes in the night sky, and not a single one has ever landed here. Deer are another matter.) Ants came out in droves a month ago, making a social highway across the deck and into the kitchen. They stopped to kiss and exchange information all along the way, hundreds of them. Since we finished bottling the maple syrup they don't have so much reason to visit, but they still go in and out boldly, as if they owned the place.

Every morning during our long hot spell, I saw fresh fox tracks in the dusty driveway. Old Reynard or Missus, coming down just on the chance that this was the night we forgot to shut in the chickens. Like the ants, the foxes think they own the place. They have left messages to this effect on our summer kitchen doorstep and on the plank ramp to the chicken-house door.

The letters to the editor on the subject of the bears have said every possible thing, including the fact that people move into the woods because they like animals. Right away they start taking the "wild" out of wildlife, as many of the bears and foxes adapt to changing reality.

The ones who are still shy of people move farther back into the hills, putting off their inevitable displacement a few more years or generations. But the ones that stay on the homeplace (*their* homeplace) only manage it by losing some of that shyness.

Our bold neighbors are not only nervy, they are also smart about roads, or else their luck has held. Early in July I crossed Pennsylvania twice, first on I-70 and then on I-80. I didn't know what to

strong fear of traffic. (Either that or their luck didn't hold.)

Our love of animals has led us to witness a lot of death and destruction right in our living room. The cats go back and forth between the house and the barn, bringing in the mice. We get a sampling of mice: deer mice, red-backed voles, meadow voles, and jumping mice. There are always a few insectivores: pygmy shrews, short-tailed shrews, hairy-tailed moles, and once a star-nosed mole. The cats never eat the insectivores, and one sniff will tell you why. They are musky and unappealing, especially after they quit running around. A cat can lose interest.

Our cats don't hunt so much in the daytime, but when they do it is mostly chipmunks we see. I admit to a few birds, but I think our cats do best with the earthbound prey. We take a philosophical attitude to all this animal-killing. It is the way of the woods, after all, and we live in the woods.

Our philosophy was tested earlier in the month when two of our own cats disappeared. We are sure they went to predators, and we think it must have been the frustrated fox. Imagine her coming down here night after night, finding that chicken-house

door closed. Chickens at night move about a little, give off mouth-watering odors and delicious little chirring noises. I have heard them myself and felt my teeth sharpen.

So there is Missus Fox, about to leave another calling card outside the chicken-house door. She is hungry. There



front foot -
2 1/4" across



hind foot -
2" across

Feet of the red fox. Note that the front foot is larger than the hind and has a fifth toe, which rarely shows up in track. Based on Seton, 1902.

make of the number of corpses I passed. There seemed to be thousands of small furry animals littering the highways, as if someone had let the air out of them. It was like a mass culling of young raccoons, a removal from the gene pool of any behavior makeup that did not include a

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are not so many mice around this place at night, either, most of them having been carried into the living room by the busy cats. She hears a rustle in the barn and out comes the young tiger cat. This fox has never jumped a cat, but she is adaptable and smart. The cat is careless, only fifty feet from the house. He is young and full of mice, and the wind is from the west so he doesn't catch that skunky message, the fox musk. I like to think he never feels a thing. Missus is on him in a flash with a quick shake, and then she is off to the den to her family.

By August, the fox families are breaking up. The pups are hunting for themselves, and the parents may have split up, too, until the next mating season. Foxes pair up in early December, usually with the same mate year after year. It is probably only the death of a mate that causes a fox to look for a new one. Once paired, foxes spend all their time together, hunting and playing until the pups are born. The den is often an enlarged woodchuck hole with many openings. The fanciest one I have read about had twenty-three different openings.

When the pups are little, Reynard hunts for the family and gets a glorious greeting when he returns home. One observer, Leonard Lee Rue, an otherwise dispassionate writer, gives this account in *The World of the Red Fox*: "... at the risk of being accused of anthropomorphism, I will add that the female is happy to welcome him back." He goes on: "The fe-

male always saw the male coming before I did, but I instantly knew of his approach because the female's body would become taut and she would shiver in anticipation. As the male drew near, the female bounded out to greet him, uttering a loud, high-pitched wail. When she got close to him, she would flop down on her belly, raise her tail up over her back, and wave it furiously. From the prone position she would spring up and kiss the male all over with her tongue, and the male would reciprocate. The male would then pick up whatever food he had dropped during this exchange, and the pair would trot back to the den and the pups."

We don't know for sure it was a fox that took Bu. Five days later Angel disappeared too, and we still don't know if it was a fox. There have been no signs of coyotes here for years, but we could have a fisher around. Whether our cats went into the bellies of foxes or not, we have considered this scenario and thought so closely about our fox neighbors this past month that in a funny way we have expanded our love of animals—the thing that inspired us to live in the woods and to keep cats, which are themselves such hunters. What I am seeing in the letters to the editor about bears is more of the same: people thinking seriously about their life in the woods; the joys and sorrows of loving, killing for meat, and a lack of shyness in neighbors.

— Bonner J. McAllester



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by Janet Taylor Lisle

The Art Of Keeping Cool is the story of a boy and his life during the summer of 1942. Robert, his little sister, his mom, and his dad live happily on their farm in Ohio. But when World War II needs his father to be a pilot and the other farmhands must go also, Robert, along with his sister and mom, are forced to move to Rhode Island to live with his maternal grandparents.

When they get to Rhode Island nothing is the same. For one, his grandparents never talk about his father, whenever his name is mentioned his grandfather gets angry, and there are no pictures of him in the house. To find out what Robert's life is like in Rhode Island and the secret about his father, look for this book in the Monterey Library.

— Dinah Mielke

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Cherokee Rose

It was William Shakespeare who said that "a rose by any other name would smell as sweet." Although there are many varieties of roses, Shakespeare may have been right, for the flower does hold a special place in our hearts, especially the wild rose. A common wild rose in these parts is the *rosa multiflora*, which in many states is classified as a weed, even though it provides excellent wildlife cover. In the South this white-flowered rose has bigger leaves and petals, and is called the Cherokee Rose, which happens to be the state flower of Georgia. It is, of course, named for the Native American tribe, from whom comes a most interesting legend of its origin.

The legend has its roots along the Cherokee Trail of Tears, and in my opinion no better symbol connecting human emotion and the beauty of a flower exists anywhere in the world. On this forced march from their homeland, the mothers of the Cherokee grieved so much that the chiefs prayed for a sign to lift their spirits and give them strength to care for their children. From that day forward, a beautiful new flower, a rose, grew wherever a mother's tears fell to the ground. The rose is white, for the mothers' tears. It has a gold center, for the gold taken from Cherokee lands, and seven petals on each flower, representing the seven clans that made the journey.

The tragic story of the Trail of Tears is a black mark upon the history of this country, and it should not be forgotten.

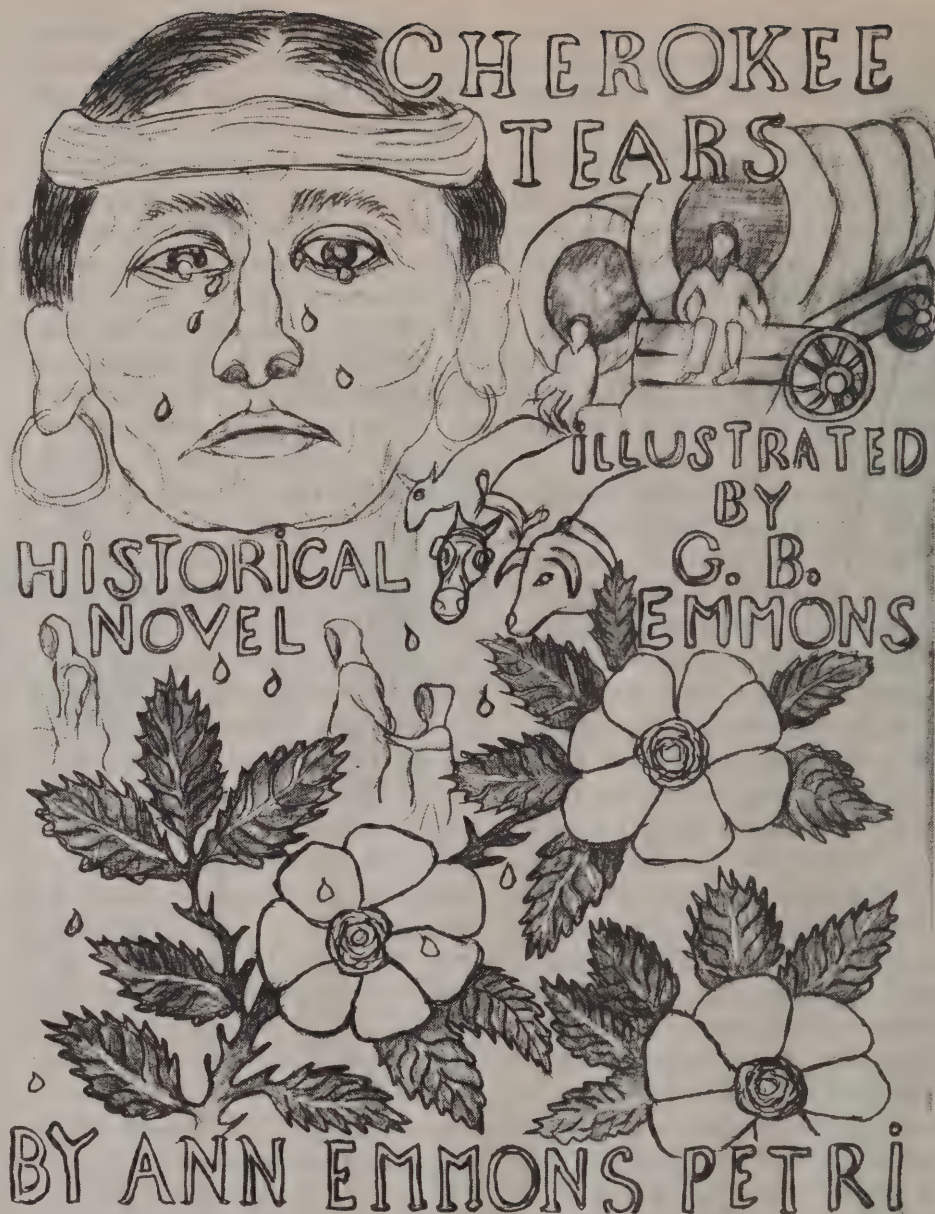
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My sister, after exhaustive research and making the same journey herself, has almost finished a historical novel entitled *Cherokee Tears*. With my own lifelong interest in Native Americans, I was

thrilled when she asked me to illustrate her book. I already knew the tragedy of this incredible and inconceivable journey. In the prologue, my sister outlines the bare facts of how it all came about. In

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a few sentences, this is epilogue of a succession of causes and consequences.

The Cherokees, along with the Creeks, Choctaws, Chickasaws, and Seminoles were known as the five civilized tribes. They had forty million acres that encompassed what are now seven states. The Cherokees had their own written language, because Sequoyah, their bard, devised an alphabet for the eighty-six distinct sounds they spoke. He used English letters for some of his syllables, as recorded by the Bureau of Ethnology, even though it is said he never learned to read English. His people enjoyed one of the highest literacy rates in the world, and in 1828 established their own newspaper, called the *Cherokee Phoenix*. This was a Native American first.

The rest can be found in the history books. The Cherokees were mainly cotton and tobacco farmers, as well as craftsmen, shopkeepers, and artists; a few became so successful that they were able to live in elaborate houses on prosperous plantations. However America was expanding, and although the Cherokees were law-abiding and model citizens, the federal and state governments cheated them out of their heritage, especially after gold was discovered on their land between 1815 and 1820. Although Chief Justice John Marshall in 1832 ruled the Cherokee Nation was a sovereign land, separate

and distinct from the United States of America, President Jackson wanted the Indian land for the United States and chose to ignore the ruling. In May 1838, under General Winfield Scott, the eviction began with imprisonment, followed by a forced march of 800 miles to what is now Oklahoma. Of the 17,000 that started out, between 4,000 and 8,000 men, women, and children died along the way. No wonder they called it *Nunna-da-ul-tsun*'y, "the trail where we cried."

When the journey began, as the people began to move out, leaving behind everything they owned and loved, it is said that a menacing storm came up on the horizon, with the grumble of thunder in the distance. Perhaps Mother Earth knew no greater cruelty than forcing her Native American children from their ancestral roots. It is also said that for some reason it did not rain. So as they were forced to move along the trail, the only moisture that fell were the tears of Cherokee mothers. And if like me, as well as my sister, you wish to believe the Indian legend, their footsteps will always be memorialized with the velvety white petals of the Cherokee Rose. It blooms not only in the spring, but, with favorable conditions, will produce a second flowering in the fall of the year.

— George Emmons

A Cappella Sextet to Perform in Sandisfield

On Saturday, August 24th, at 8 p.m., Equal Voices, New York's newest professional a cappella sextet, will perform at the Sandisfield Arts Center.

Six unique individuals collaborate to bring roughly two centuries of vocal experience to the stage, with over forty professional ensembles throughout the world. Dedicated to the aesthetic exploration of the vocal art, all have performed as classical soloists in tuxedos or gowns but have also enjoyed jamming and recording with the likes of Bobby McFerrin, They Might Be Giants, and the Lounge Lizards.

In New York's musical circles, they are the singers everyone wants to sing with: they combine rich voices with solid musicianship, a profound respect for the ensemble sound, and a quick wit. Why the name? Because these six singers are equally gifted, and equal to any challenge. "You'll cry, laugh uproariously, and applaud like crazy for this group," says George Preston, Chairman of the Sandisfield Arts Center Programming Committee. "Their rendition of the Spider Man theme is an audience favorite."

The Sandisfield Arts Center is located on Route 57 and Hammertown Road in Sandisfield. Tickets are \$15 at the door. Call (413) 258-3309 for information or reservations.



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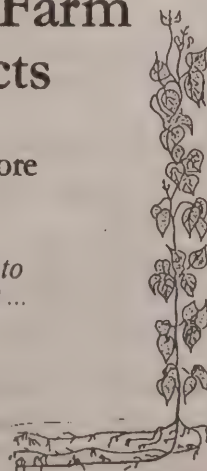
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The Thread of the Story: Quilting By The Gulf

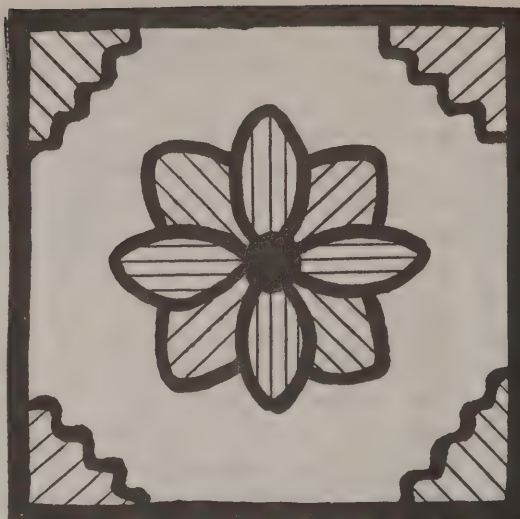
August is a month when I'm grateful that I live way to the north of the Mason-Dixon line. My gratitude is neither political, historical, or cultural; it's thermal. I'm just happy that this rocky old soil hasn't returned to its earlier-geological-age status of tropical paradise. (This part of New England used to be part of a chain of volcanic islands located near the equator. I can obsess on that; don't get me started.)

Come winter, though, I'm equally happy to leave the snow behind and spend a week or so on Florida's Gulf coast. It's usually warm enough for me to walk on the beach without a windbreaker; often it's warm enough to walk in the water. Sometimes it's just right for kayaking.

Early last March, to augment my beach rambling, I visited my favorite Venice-area quilt store, and checked on linen colors available in the needlecraft shop just a few blocks away. I made successful forays into clothing and jewelry shops between the two. And while I was in town, I happened upon a quilt show at the Venice Community Center.

"Quilting by the Gulf" is a biannual effort of the Venice Area Quilter's Guild. This, their ninth show, required the time, talent, and dedication of members who worked on seventeen different committees. Happily, the guild boasts more than two hundred members.

Barb Cox, one of my traveling companions, had never been to a quilt show before. We had plenty to see, and, on



Betty Koch's "Hello Dahlia" exhibit in the Quilting by the Gulf IX Show had a central medallion, perhaps based on this similar, simpler pattern by Nancy Cabot.

vacation, time to explore everything. It was fun to share my enthusiasm with someone new to the art. I had to take time with each exhibit, to stop and explain what, on my own, I might have overlooked.

Imagine 377 quilts—bed quilts, wall quilts, wearable art, even kitchen- and home-decorating accessories—all on display in one huge room. Imagine that same room large enough to also showcase the wares of ten fabric vendors, and a boutique table full of handcrafted gifts made by quilt guild members.

People moved in and out of nearby rooms, too. All through the weekend the guild offered demonstrations of quilting


techniques. Hand quilting and free-motion machine quilting were the most popular demonstrations, with workshops available on paper piecing, reversible bindings, invisible appliqué, and fabric origami, too.

Barb and I bought raffle tickets for the guild's fund-raising quilt, which someone else won, checked out the silent auction to benefit local human service agencies, and we each voted for our favorite quilt for the "Viewer's Choice" award. There were twenty other award categories, too, including "Large Bed Quilts, Pieced or Appliquéd, Hand Quilted," "Small Wall Quilts, Mixed, Innovative Techniques," even "Beginner Quilts," "Clothing and Accessories," and "Group Quilts." One of my favorites was the "Time-Span Quilts" category.

These were two-person quilts, contemporary adaptations of antique tops which had been left unfinished.

The guild gears up for its show only in even-numbered years, so next winter my vacation fiber-arts fix will have to be self-initiated. I plan to track down those five new-to-me quilt and fabric stores advertised in my 2002 "Quilting by the Gulf" program. And if I happen to be there on a second or fourth Wednesday, I'll be back at the Venice Community Center as a guest at a quilt guild meeting. Who knows, maybe Barb will come along, too.


— Mary Kate Jordan



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An International Day of Peace and Cease Fire, September 21, 2002

*Imagine all the people, living life in peace.
You may say I'm a dreamer, but I'm not
the only one.*

*I hope someday you'll join us, and the
world will be as one.*

— John Lennon

The United Nations General Assembly has declared September 21, 2002, an International Day of Peace and Cease-Fire. Imagine a day on Earth when armies lay down their weapons and rest. Imagine a day when all the people join their hearts and minds for a moment of silence to welcome a day of peace. This day is an opportunity to embrace the power of peace and is a small step, a beginning for human kind.

"We have entered the new millennium through the gates of fire at Ground Zero in NYC," U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan said. The renewed threat of nuclear war, global terrorism, and the war that corporations wage on our environment have cast a dark shadow on all of

humanity. We are at a crossroads. But there is hope.

Prophecies of many of the world's wisdom traditions address the condition we see today. These prophecies predict that world peace is on the horizon. They foresee a transformation in which humanity will take a leap in consciousness never before experienced in all of history, an Aquarian renaissance. These prophesies also speak about the Old Ones, the Holy Ones, the Guardians of Humanity, the Christ, the Messiah returning to Earth to teach us how to live in peace and to reconnect humanity to our spiritual roots. Some believe that these beings are here today, soon to declare their presence and messages of hope openly.

Imagine!

So do we sit on our hands and wait for these prophecies to come true? To the contrary, I believe we are called to be conscious instruments of this transformation. The violence unleashed on September 11 has begotten more violence and still more violence in a frightening spiral of suffering and destruction. We must embrace the power of peace or face dark and dire consequences.

Begin by looking into your heart and discovering what actions you are called on to perform in support of the International Day of Peace and Cease-Fire. Meditation, prayer, or simply some quiet time alone may reveal peace within you, opening a path of action to bring that peace out into the world. To connect with others and learn more about how to participate in the International Day of Peace, go to www.WorldPeaceforADay.org.

September 21, 2002, is a full moon

Local Author to Appear at Pittsfield Barnes & Noble

On August 22nd, Great Barrington author Peg O'Connor Burt (formerly of Monterey) and child illustrators Jane and Vinnie Burt will present their books *The Evolution of Merucia* and *What in the World Is Going On? Am I Safe? (A Letter to American Kids)* at 1:00 p.m. at the Barnes & Noble bookstore in Pittsfield. *What in the World Is Going On?* is a new book for children about September 11th. This is an event for parents, teachers, and children. The book is available locally at The Bookloft in Great Barrington.

day in the autumnal equinox season. It is a time that civilizations for many ages have used for powerful rituals. This year we have the opportunity to conduct a ritual for peace, for a day in which the threat of war is obsolete, toward the day in which housing, health care, education, and nourishment are the birthright of every person on the planet.

Our efforts must be aligned with Spirit, but at the same time it is not enough to meditate and gaze at our herbal tea. We must also take action, and that action must come not from fear but from love. To put it simply, Divine intervention + Inspired human action + a lot of Love = World Peace.

That peace begins with you. I hope that on September 21 you will join us, and the world will be as one.

— Michael Johnson

CHARLES J. FERRIS Attorney at Law



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Keep Dogs off the Beach

To the Editor:

Did you ever wonder why dogs are not welcome on beaches? How many of you are aware of diseases such as Cutaneous Larval Migrans, Visceral Larval Migrans, Giardia, and Leptospirosis? These are zoonotic diseases; in other words, they are spread to human beings from animals. There are many zoonotic diseases, of which rabies is probably the most notorious. The four listed above are named because they have the potential to be transmitted through the contamination of the environment, with either feces or urine, from our own best friend, the dog. Some are parasites, Leptospirosis is a bacteria. Human disease caused by these zoonoses may oftentimes be minor, sometimes inconsequential, and yet they may also cause severe debilitating conditions, including blindness. Those most at risk, as with most diseases, are the immunosuppressed and the young and old. Where does transmission of these diseases occur? Anywhere, for some quite commonly at the beach. Yes, the beach, where we all go with our children.

Zoonoses aside, another reason to keep the dogs off the beach is the risk of dog bites and simply the fear some dogs may create, especially among children. Keep in mind, some people do not own dogs, they are not comfortable with them. And all dogs, even the most well behaved and trained, have the potential to do significant harm to a person in an uncontrolled situation among strangers. Dog bites can occur anytime and anywhere. As we are all now aware, some dog

attacks can be devastating both physically and psychologically, especially to young children. As a parent and a dog owner I would not want to be on the other end of a situation in which a child is bitten.

Please respect the rules. Do not bring your dog to the beach. I leave mine at home but I do bring my children and I value their health. Incidentally, I believe the rule applies at all times of the day including early mornings and in the evenings when the beach is unguarded; there should be NO EXCEPTIONS. This is no doubt when most violations occur. Just the other night I recall sighting two dogs at the beach. One dog was off leash, and at one point she wandered down onto the beach amongst several children. Her owner sat in conversation with her back to both the beach and the dog. It only takes one second for something to happen. The second dog was at least on a leash, but after walking down to the water and taking a drink the pet urinated into the water.

Now I am sure that most of the dogs that visit our beach are perfectly safe and likely free of zoonotic diseases, but as an owner you just do not know. Some of these diseases are difficult to diagnose

and they do not always cause visible illness in our dogs. And some are more common than you would think. The incidence of serious zoonotic transmission is probably quite low in this region of the country, but if your child becomes one of those rare statistics it is by no means insignificant. We are not perfect and neither are our dogs. No matter how good and gentle your dog is, it has the potential to cause injury, and at a beach with young excited children unforeseen situations can arise in an instant. These rules were created not by people who dislike dogs but by people such as physicians and veterinarians with expertise in infectious diseases and injuries. They are intended to protect our public health.

For those of us who were unaware of the reasons dogs are not allowed on beaches, now you know. Please do not put me or anyone else in town in the uncomfortable position of having to approach you at the beach and asking you to remove your dog. I am there to relax and enjoy the water with my family. I am not the public health department nor the police but just one of you. Leave the dog home.

— John Makuc, DVM, Monterey

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Young Turk's Thoughts about Monterey

To the Editor,

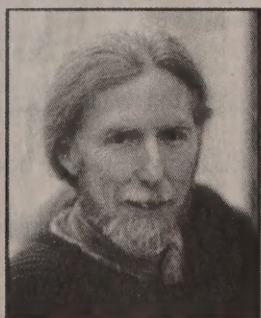
I think of Monterey as a place where you can wake up and hear the birds sing which is even better than having an alarm clock. I think of Monterey as a place where you can walk outside and feel the breeze.

I live across the sea in Turkey. Turkey is not like Monterey; you can't drink water out of the taps like you can here. You have to buy water in great big bottles. Turkey has a lot of animals that America doesn't have. They have Kongol dogs and Kalkan, a type of fish that lives in the Black Sea. They also have Van cats that come from a place called Van in Turkey. They have long fur and pushed-in faces and eyes with two different colors.

But one thing Turks and Americans all have in common, we are all humans and we all live on one planet.

— Emre Arbac (age 8), Istanbul
(great-grandson of Hildegard Wolff,
age 90)

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An Amazing Poet

To the Editor:

When I reached the age of fifty, my oldest daughter telephoned to remind me that it was not until he had reached so advanced an age that Immanuel Kant began *The Critique of Pure Reason*. Later I took solace in the thought that Verdi completed his great comic opera *Falstaff* when he was pushing eighty. When it comes to poets, however, I was inclined to believe that like people engaged in higher mathematics they tended to peter out after the age of thirty.

Now comes Alice Howell in your issue of July, showing us that there are poets who keep surpassing themselves (and others) even at the age of eighty. So there is hope for us all.

— Roy Shepard, Monterey

Boat Ramp Alert

To the Editor:

An attempt is being made to permit use of a boat ramp abutting the town beach *during the summer months*. This clearly would be unsafe, unhealthy, and unpleasant. The existing ramp may be used during all but the summer months at present.

To express your opposition to *extending* its use *during the summer*, write to Senator Andrea Nuciforo, 74 North St., Pittsfield, MA 01201, or e-mail anucifor@senate.ma.us. Groups supporting boat ramp use are pressuring him to support summer access.

— Gerry Shapiro, Monterey

Thanks from Lake Buel Preservation District

To the Editor:

On behalf of the Prudential Committee of the Lake Buel Restoration and Preservation District, I would like to thank the people of Monterey for your support of the article on the warrant at town meeting, and for the appropriation of \$5,000 by the Town of Monterey to be used as matching cash for the grant Lake Buel received from the Department of Environmental Management.

We anticipate that this grant money will help us abate some of the phosphorus loading in the lake, control run-off at the boat launch, and support the plant replacement program we have initiated as a strategy to curb the proliferation of invasive, nonnative weeds such as Eurasian milfoil. The Prudential Committee continues to work hard on its lake management plan, and your support of these efforts means a great deal to us.

As the water quality of Lake Buel improves, we see the improvement of properties around the lake continuing at an accelerated pace. This means more tax revenues to the Towns of Monterey and New Marlborough, backed by more concerned property owners who will help to assure that together we make every effort possible to preserve and protect our Great Pond.

Again, thank you for your support.

— Paula Hatch-Sato
Prudential Committee Member

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We are grateful to the following people who recently contributed to the *Monterey News*.

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Ricky Long
Donna Putrino
Lillie Barnett & Ida Weitza
Marty & Jane Schwartz
Irving Yost
Frederick & Margaret Vorck
Ruth Rosenblatt
Myrna Kruuse
Donald Amstead
Allen Dan & Julie Shapiro
Ian & Christa Lindsay
Jonathan & Catharyn Fletcher
Delight & Paul Dodyk
Christine Fahlund
Otis Gazette
Bill & Carol Ban
Janet Lampman & Keith Snow
Judith Bach
Susan and Michael Johnson
Richard Ricklefs
Eleanor Knoblock

Personal Notes

Happy Birthday to **Chelsy Smith** on the 2nd, **Gabriella Makuc** on the 4th, **Katie Kopetchny** on the 5th, **David McAllester** on the 6th, **Ann Burns Smith** on the 7th, **Patrick Sheridan** on the 9th, **Justin Makuc** and **Ian Quisenberry** on the 11th, **Kate Olds** and **Sarah Olds** on the 15th, **Michelle Grotz** and **Zachary Transport** on the 20th, **Amanda Thorn** and **Henri Morrison** on the 24th and **Ann McGinley** on the 26th.

Happy Anniversary to **Tom and Jane Thorn** on the 19th, **Stefan and Stephanie Grotz** on the 23rd, **Tom Morrison** and **Pam Gauthier** on the 28th and **Jeff and Hannah Moran** on the 29th.

Congratulations to **Arnie and Janet Garber** on the celebration of the Bar and B'nai Mitzvah of their grandson **Evan Gordon** and twin granddaughters **Allison and Danielle Gordon** on June 1st. Proud parents are **Dr. Eric and Jill Gordon** of Rumson, NJ.

Congratulations to **Stephen and Mari (Makuc) Enoch** on the birth of their daughter, **Elisabeth Bernadette**, on July 12th. The proud grandparents are **Henry and Anne Marie Makuc**.



Fran Amidon and Joyce Scheffey at May retiree's fete.

Roger Tryon and Katherine Reis celebrated fifteen years together and were married on Saturday, June 29, a beautiful summer day. The ceremony was held in the Monterey Meetinghouse with **Heidi Haverkamp** officiating. The bride wore a linen sheath dress and a beaded silk shawl, and the groom was dashing in a charcoal stroller. The service was highlighted by music composed for the occasion and performed by family and friends of the couple. The wedding was attended by 135 guests, and the couple's pet dog Sarah was also prominently present. There was an outdoor party following the ceremony at the Tryon family farm, with horse and buggy rides, a picnic supper, and dancing. "There is a right time for everything" (Ecclesiastes 3:1).

— Deborah Mielke



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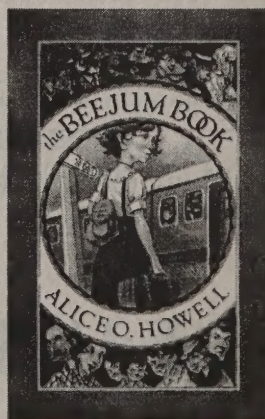
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— Andrew Harvey, author of *The Divine Path*

Read this book to yourself or read it aloud to a young child, and delight in the hidden ironies of language and the pearls of wisdom you trip over when you least expect them. As *Alice in Wonderland* magically mirrored the Victorian world, so *The Beejumb Book* mirrors ours.

— Marion Woodman, author of *Addiction to Perfection*

Gutsy humor, outlandish language, serious tomfoolery.

— Thomas Moore, author of *Care of the Soul*

Calendar

Every Saturday in summer: Mass, 7 p.m., Roman Catholic Chapel of Our Lady of the Hills, Beartown Road.

Tuesdays-Saturdays and Holidays: Bidwell House Museum open for tours, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

Every Thursday: Dog play group, 5-5:30 p.m. Information 528-7916.

Every Saturday in summer: Meeting of Lake Garfield Torah Study Group. Information 567-8171 or 528-5066.

Saturday, August 3:

Pottery demonstration and workshop for children by Rick Hamelin, 10 a.m.-12 noon, Monterey Library lawn.

Wool-processing demonstration by Maureen Costello, 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Bidwell House Museum, Art School Road, Monterey. See p. 6.

Thursday, August 8: Free blood pressure clinic, 2:30-3:30 p.m., Town Hall, administered by Visiting Nurses Assoc.

Saturday, August 10: Lake Garfield Association meeting, 9:00 a.m., Monterey Firehouse. See p. 10.

Friday, August 16: Historical Society meets at 7:30 p.m. at the General Knox Museum. Topic is the General Store. See p. 4.

Saturday, August 17:

Lakefest, all-day celebration sponsored

by Lake Garfield Assoc. See p. 3.

Historic quilts from Bidwell House Museum's collection will be exhibited in conjunction with quilting demonstration by MaryKate Jordon, 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Bidwell House Museum, Art School Road, Monterey. See p. 6.

Sunday, August 18: "A Bluegrass Blast," concert by Beartown Mountain Ramblers, 2:30 p.m., Monterey Meetinghouse. Tickets at door. Information at www.montereychurch.org.

Wednesday, August 21: Monterey Food Co-op order distribution and pickup, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., Meetinghouse basement.

Thursday, August 22:

Great Barrington author Peg O'Connor Burt (formerly of Monterey) and child illustrators Jane and Vinnie Burt will present their books *The Evolution of Merucia* and *What in the World Is Going On? Am I Safe? (A Letter to American Kids)*, 1:00 p.m., Barnes & Noble bookstore, Pittsfield.

Full Moon.

Saturday, August 24:

Equal Voices, New York's newest professional a cappella sextet, in concert, 8 p.m., Sandisfield Arts Center, Route 57 and Hammertown Rd. Tickets \$15. Call 413 258-3309 for information or reservations. See p. 17.

The Observer

June 26-July 25

High temp. (7/4)	92°
Low temp. (7/25)	49°
Avg. high temp.	82.9°
Avg. low temp.	57.9°
Avg. temp.	70.4°
Total rainfall	5.29"
Precipitation occurred on 7 days.	

Square and contra dancing, 8:30-11:30 p.m., Sheffield Grange, Rt. 7, Sheffield, Mass. Music by Mountain Laurel, calling by Rich Futyma. All dances are taught, beginners and children are welcome. Refreshments at intermission. Adults \$6, children \$3. Information (413) 528-9385.

Sunday, August 25: Workshop on Jesus as presented by Gospel writers, 11:30 a.m., Meetinghouse fellowship hall. Bring sandwich; tea and coffee available. Information 528-5850 or www.montereychurch.org.

Sunday, September 1: The Robert Rivest Mime Theatre "Family Show," 1 p.m., Sandisfield Arts Center, Route 57 and Hammertown Rd. Free. Information call 413 258-3309.

Saturday, September 7: Program on Goshawks and Falconry by Darryl A. Perkins, 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Bidwell House Museum, Art School Road, Monterey. See p. 6.

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Contributions from local artists this month:
Emre Arbac, p. 13; Maureen Banner, p. 12;
George Emmons, p. 16; Bonner McAllester, p. 14;
Glynis Oliver, p. 15.

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